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FM AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5448  
INFO RUCNMER/MERCOSUR COLLECTIVE  
RUEKJCS/CJCS WASHDC  
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC  
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC  
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L MONTEVIDEO 000197

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DEPT ALSO FOR WHA/BSC AND NEA/IPA

E.O. 12958: DECL: 03/01/2016  
TAGS: [PREL](#) [UY](#)  
SUBJECT: HAMAS

REF: 27174

Classified By: Charge D'Affaires James D. Nealon  
for reasons 1.4 (B) and (D)

(C) PolCouns delivered reftel demarche to the MFA's Director of Multilateral Affairs Gustavo Alvarez on February 23 and raised the issue again with Director General for Political Affairs Bruno Faraone on February 24. Faraone indicated that the GOU had received no request to meet with Hamas representatives and was unlikely to entertain such a request if presented. Nevertheless, he said, the "West" bore a responsibility in the victory of Hamas in the recent Palestinian Legislative Council elections since the lack of hope and slow progress in peace negotiations with Israel only strengthened the hand of radicals. Faraone did not elaborate on the Quartet's conditions for dealing with Hamas. He said that Uruguay remains firm in its support for Israel, but that it would be "unfortunate" if Hamas became "isolated" by the international community and forced to seek alliances only with radical actors such as Iran.

Nealon